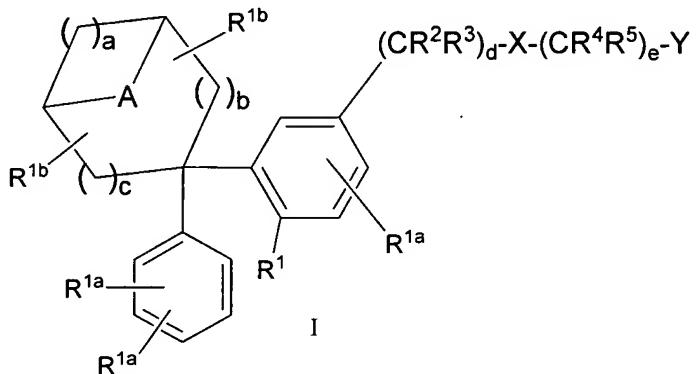


Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (previously presented) A compound represented by formula I:



and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters and solvates thereof wherein:

“a” is an integer selected from 1, 2 and 3; and b and c are each integers independently selected from 0, 1 and 2;

“A” represents a methylene or ethylene group;

each R1a is independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -Cl, -Br, -C1-6alkyl, -CN, -OH, -OC1-6 alkyl, -fluoroC1-6 alkyl, -fluoroC1-6 alkoxy, -N(R^a)₂, -C1-6 alkylN(R^a)₂, -NHC(O)C1-4alkyl, -C(O)NHC1-4alkyl and -C(O)N(C1-4alkyl)₂;

each R1b is independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, -F, -C1-6 alkyl, -OH, -OC1-6 alkyl, -fluoroC1-6alkyl, -fluoroC1-6alkoxy, -N(R^a)₂ and -C1-6alkylN(R^a),

or one R1b group can represent oxo and the other is as previously defined;

R1 represents -H or is selected from the group consisting of:

a) halo, -OH, -CO₂R^a, -C(O)NR^aR^b, -C(O)-Hetcy1, -N(R^a)₂, -S(O)₂NR^aR^b, -NO₂, -SO₂NR^bC(O)R^a, -NR^bSO₂R^a, -NR^bC(O)R^a, -C(O)SO₂NR^aR^b, -NR^bC(O)NR^aR^b, -NR^bCO₂R^a, -OC(O)NR^aR^b, -C(O)NR^bNR^aR^b, -CN, -S(O)_pR^a and -OSO₂R^a,

b) -C₁₋₁₀alkyl, -C₂₋₁₀alkenyl, -C₂₋₁₀alkynyl, -OC₁₋₁₀alkyl, -OC₃₋₁₀alkenyl and -OC₃₋₁₀alkynyl, said groups being optionally substituted with: -OH, -CO₂R^a, -C(O)NR^aR^b, -C(O)N(R^a)C₁₋₆alkenyl, -C(O)N(R^a)C₁₋₆alkynyl, -C(O)-Hetcy1, -N(R^a)₂, -S(O)₂NR^aR^b, -SO₂NR^bC(O)R^a, -NR^bSO₂R^a, -NR^bC(O)R^a, -C(O)SO₂NR^aR^b, -NR^bC(O)NR^aR^b, -NR^bCO₂R^a, -OC(O)NR^aR^b, -C(O)NR^bNR^aR^b, -S(O)_pR^a, Aryl, HAR, -Hetcy1, and up to 5 fluoro groups, wherein Hetcy1 is selected from azetidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, piperazinyl, morpholinyl and γ -lactam;

c) Aryl or HAR optionally substituted with 1-2 members selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -Br, -C₁₋₆alkyl, -C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, -CN, -OH, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkoxy, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -C₁₋₆alkylNH₂, -C₁₋₆alkyl-NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -C₁₋₆alkylN(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -C₁₋₆alkyl-CN, -NHC(O)C₁₋₄alkyl, -C(O)NHC₁₋₄alkyl and -C(O)N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂;

“d” and “e” are each integers independently selected from 0, 1, 2 and 3, such that the sum of d plus e is 1-6;

each p independently represents an integer selected from 0, 1 and 2;

X represents a bond, or is selected from the group consisting of -O-, -S(O)_p- and -NR^a-;

R², R³, R⁴ and R⁵ are each independently selected from the group consisting of -H, -C₁₋₆alkyl, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -OH, -fluoro, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkoxy, -N(R^a)₂, and

0-1 of CR²R³ and 0-1 of CR⁴R⁵ can represent a group selected from carbonyl, thiocarbonyl, C=NR^a and a 3-7 membered cycloalkyl ring,

provided that when X represents -S(O)_p-, and p is 1 or 2, the CR²R³ and CR⁴R⁵ groups adjacent to X represent moieties other than carbonyl, thiocarbonyl and C=NR^a and

further provided that when X is -O- or -NR^a-, at least one of CR²R³ and CR⁴R⁵ adjacent to X represents a moiety other than carbonyl, thiocarbonyl and C=NR^a;

Y is selected from the group consisting of Aryl, HAR and Hetcy, wherein each is optionally mono-substituted or di-substituted with R^{1a};

each R^a is independently selected from the group consisting of -H and :

(a) -C₁₋₁₀alkyl, -C₃₋₆cycloalkyl, -C₃₋₁₀alkenyl, or -C₃₋₁₀alkynyl, optionally substituted with 1-3 fluoro groups or 1-2 members selected from the group consisting of: -OH, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -CN, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl, and -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂;

(b) Aryl or Ar-C₁₋₆alkyl-, the aryl portions being optionally substituted with 1-2 of -C₁₋₆alkyl, -CN, -OH, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkoxy, -C₁₋₆alkylNH₂, -C₁₋₆alkylNHC₁₋₄alkyl, -C₁₋₆alkylN(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -NHC(O)C₁₋₄alkyl, -C(O)NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -C(O)N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -CO₂H and -CO₂C₁₋₆alkyl groups, and 1-3 -F, -Cl or -Br groups;

and the alkyl portion of Ar-C₁₋₆alkyl- being optionally substituted with -OH, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, and 1-3 fluoro groups;

(c) Hetcy or Hetcy-C₁₋₆alkyl-, each being optionally substituted on carbon with 1-2 members selected from the group consisting of: -F, -OH, -CO₂H, -C₁₋₆alkyl, -CO₂C₁₋₆alkyl, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -NHC(O)C₁₋₄alkyl, oxo, -C(O)NHC₁₋₄alkyl and -C(O)N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂; and optionally substituted on nitrogen when present with -C₁₋₆alkyl or -C₁₋₆acyl; and

the alkyl portion of Hetcy-C₁₋₆alkyl- being optionally substituted with 1-2 of: -F, -OH, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl and -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂;

(d) HAR or HAR-C₁₋₆alkyl-, said HAR and HAR portion of HAR-C₁₋₆alkyl- being substituted with 1-2 members selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -Br, -C₁₋₆alkyl, -CN, -

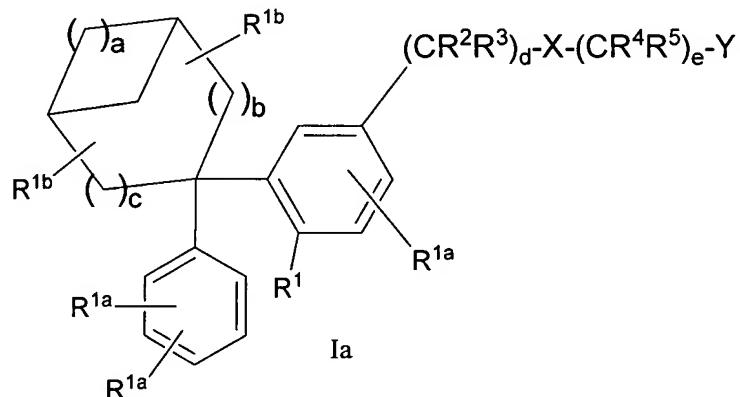
OH, -OC₁₋₆ alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆ alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆ alkoxy NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -NHC(O)C₁₋₄alkyl, -C(O)NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -C(O)N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -CO₂H, -CO₂C₁₋₆alkyl; and

the alkyl portion of HAR-C₁₋₆alkyl- being optionally substituted with 1-2 of: -F, -OH, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl and -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂;

each R^b is independently selected from the group consisting of: -H, -NH₂, and -C₁₋₁₀alkyl optionally substituted with members selected from the group consisting of 1-3 fluoro groups and 1-2 of -OH, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl and -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂;

and when present in the same moiety, (a) R^a and R^b, (b) two R^a groups or (c) two R^b groups can be taken in combination with the atom or atoms to which they are attached and any intervening atoms and represent a 4-7 membered ring containing 0-3 heteroatoms selected from O, S(O)_p and N, and the 4-7 membered ring may be optionally substituted with a member selected from the group consisting of -C₁₋₆alkyl, -C₂₋₆acyl and oxo.

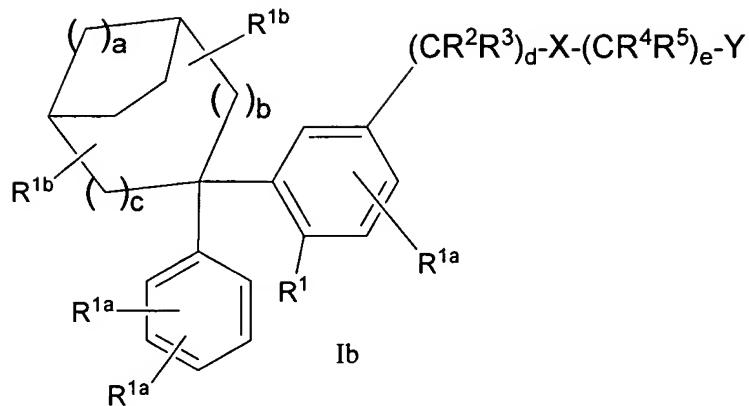
2. (currently amended) The compound of claim 1 having of structural formula Ia:



and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters and solvates thereof, wherein "a" is an integer selected from 1, 2 and 3; and b and c are each integers independently selected from 0, 1 and 2; provided that the sum of "a" + b + c is from 1 to 5.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The compound of claim 1 having of structural formula Ib:



and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts, esters and solvates thereof wherein: "a" is an integer selected from 2 and 3; and b and c are integers independently selected from 0 and 1; provided that the sum of "a" + b + c is from 2 to 4.

5. (original) The compound of claim 4 wherein "a" is 2, and b and c are integers selected from 0 and 1.

6. (canceled)

7. (previously presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein of the three R^{1a} groups shown in the generic structural drawing of formula I, two R^{1a} groups represent -H and one R^{1a} group is selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -C₁₋₆ alkyl, -CN, -OC₁₋₆ alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆ alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkoxy, -N(R^a)₂, -C₁₋₆alkylN(R^a)₂, -NHC(O)C₁₋₄alkyl, -C(O)NHC₁₋₄alkyl and -C(O)N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂.

8. (canceled)

9. (previously presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein both R^{1b} groups represent -H.

10. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein R¹ represents a member selected from the group consisting of:

a) -C(O)NR^aR^b, -C(O)-Hetcy¹, -N(R^a)₂, -S(O)₂NR^aR^b, -SO₂NR^bC(O)R^a, -NR^bSO₂R^a, -NR^bC(O)R^a, -CN, -S(O)_pR^a and -OSO₂R^a;

b) -C₁₋₁₀alkyl, -C₃₋₆alkenyl, -C₃₋₆alkynyl, -OC₁₋₁₀alkyl, -OC₃₋₆alkenyl and -OC₃₋₁₀alkynyl, said groups being optionally substituted with a member selected from the group consisting of: -CO₂R^a, -C(O)NR^aR^b, -C(O)N(R^a)C₁₋₆alkenyl, -C(O)N(R^a)C₁₋₆alkynyl, -C(O)-

Hetcy¹, -N(R^a)₂, -S(O)₂NR^aR^b, -SO₂NR^bC(O)R^a, -NR^bSO₂R^a, NR^bC(O)R^a, -S(O)_pR^a, Aryl, HAR, -
Hetcy¹, and up to 5 fluoro groups; and

c) HAR optionally substituted with 1-2 members selected from the group consisting of:
-F, -Cl, -Br, -C₁₋₆alkyl, -CN, -OH, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkoxy, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -C₁₋₆alkylNH₂, -C₁₋₆alkyl-NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -C₁₋₆alkylN(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -C₁₋₆alkyl-CN, -NHC(O)C₁₋₄alkyl, -C(O)NHC₁₋₄alkyl and -C(O)N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂.

11. (canceled)

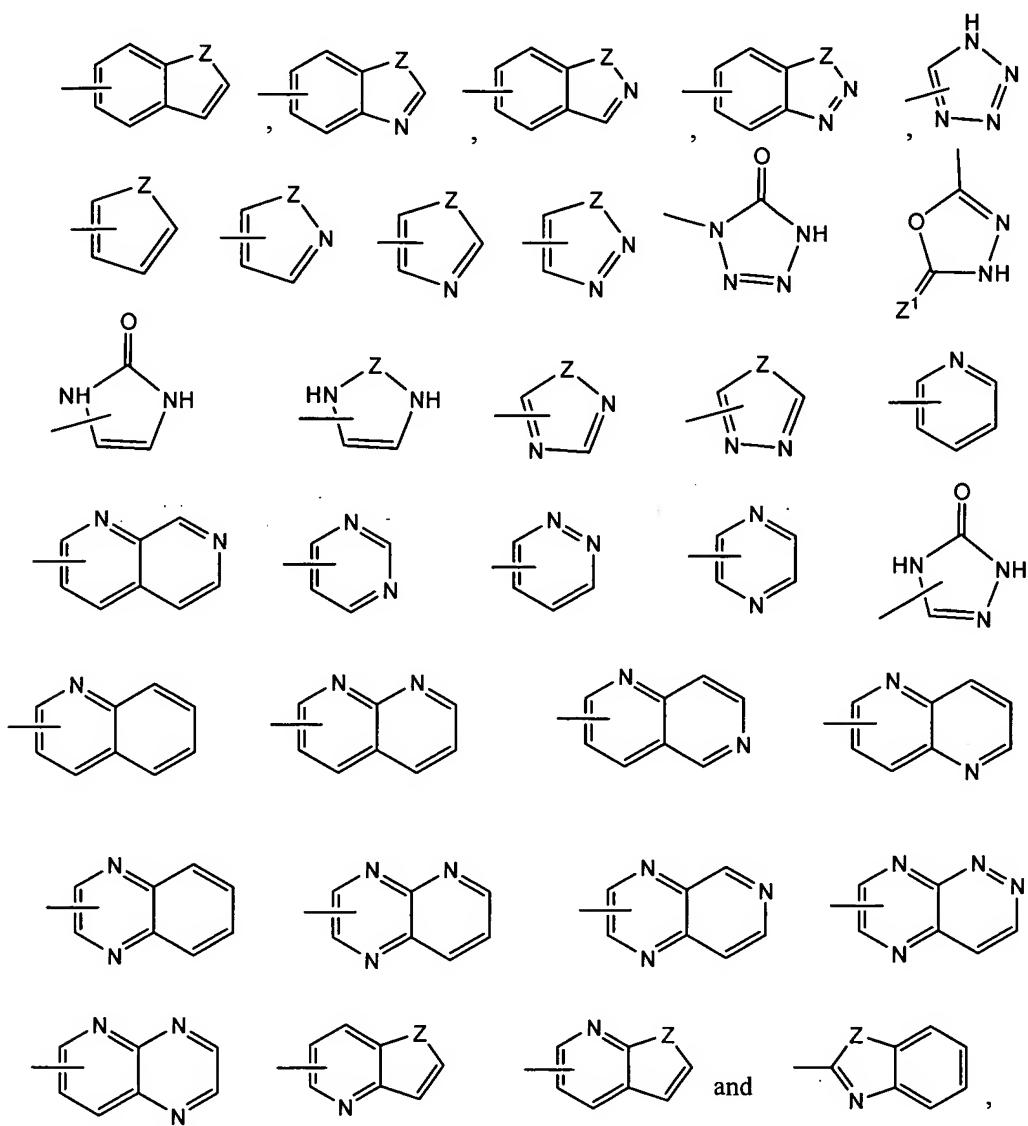
12. (canceled)

13. (canceled)

14. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein -(CR²R³)_d-X-C(R⁴R⁵)_e- represents a member selected from the group consisting of -O-CH₂- and -CH₂CH₂-.

15. (canceled)

16. (previously presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein Y represents HAR selected from the group consisting of:



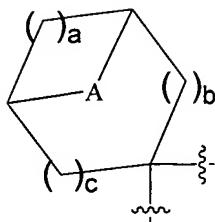
wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of O, S and NH; and Z¹ is selected from the group consisting of O and S.

17. (canceled)

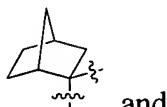
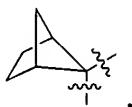
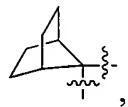
18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

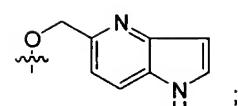
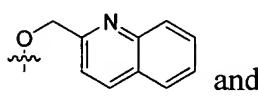
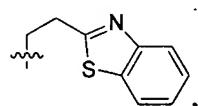
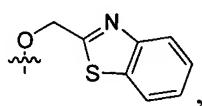
20. (original) The compound of claim 1 wherein:



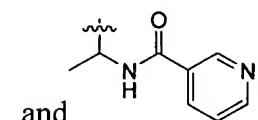
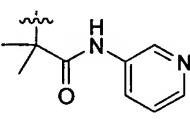
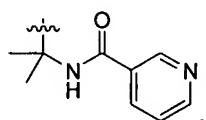
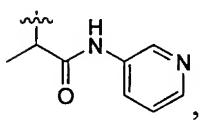
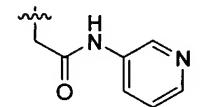
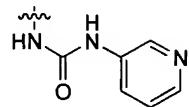
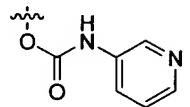
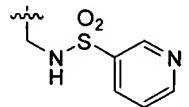
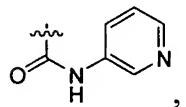
is selected from the group consisting of:



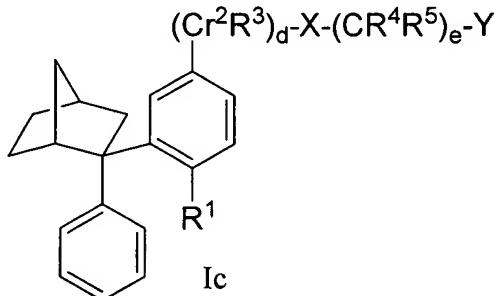
$-(CR^2R^3)_d-X-(CR^4R^5)_e-Y-(R^{1a})_2$ is selected from the group consisting of:



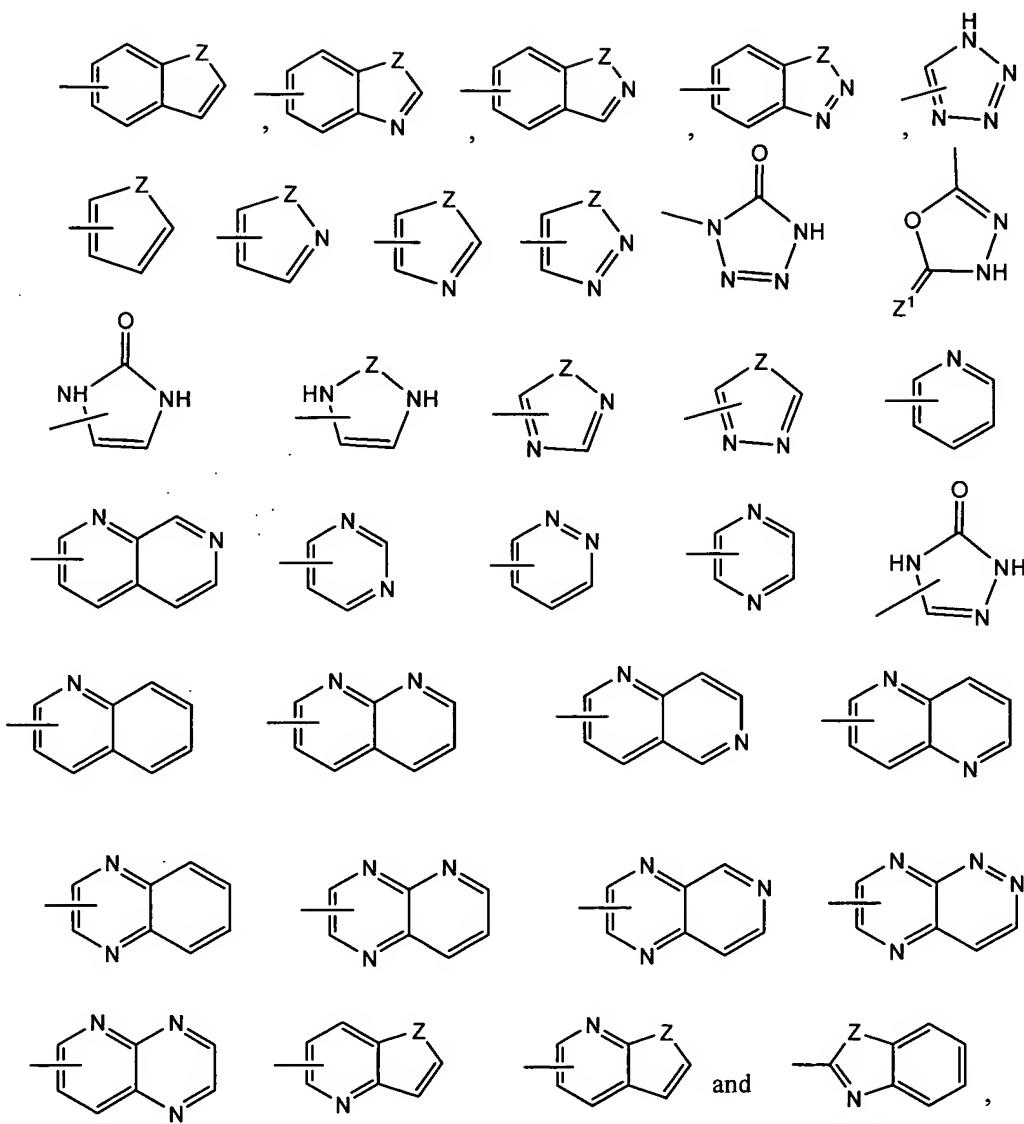
and R^1 is selected from the group consisting of:



21. (currently amended) The compound of claim 1 having of structural formula Ic:



wherein d is 0 (zero); e is 1; X is $-O-$; R^4 and R^5 are both $-H$; Y is selected from the group consisting of



wherein Z is selected from the group consisting of O, S and NH; and Z¹ is selected from the group consisting of O and S;

R¹ is selected from the group consisting of:

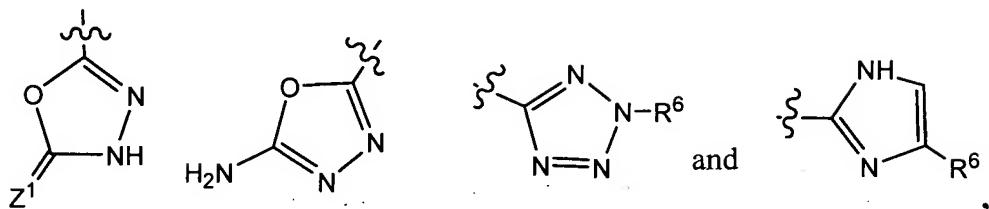
- a) -OC(O)NR^aR^b, and -C(O)NR^aR^b;
- b) C₁₋₃alkyl substituted with a member selected from: -C(O)-NR^aR^b and -C(O)-Hetaryl;

and c) HAR optionally substituted with 1-2 members selected from the group consisting of: -F, -Cl, -C₁₋₆alkyl, -CN, -OH, -OC₁₋₆alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkyl, -fluoroC₁₋₆alkoxy, -NH₂, -NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -C₁₋₆alkylNH₂, -C₁₋₆alkyl-NHC₁₋₄alkyl, -C₁₋₆alkylN(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂, -C₁₋₆alkyl-CN, -NHC(O)C₁₋₄alkyl, -C(O)NHC₁₋₄alkyl and -C(O)N(C₁₋₄alkyl)₂.

22. (original) The compound of claim 21 wherein: Y is selected from the group consisting of



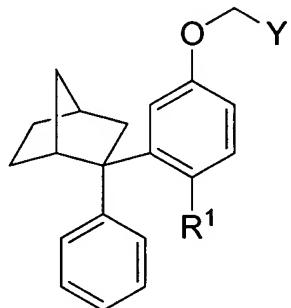
when R¹ is HAR, HAR is selected from:



wherein R⁶ is selected from -H, -C₁-3alkyl, -C₃-6cycloalkyl, -F and -Cl;

R^a is selected from (a) -C₁-4-alkyl and C₃-6cycloalkyl, each optionally substituted with 1-3 fluoro groups or a member selected from the group consisting of: -OC₁-6alkyl, -CN, -NH₂, -NHC₁-4alkyl and -N(C₁-4alkyl)₂, (b) Hetcy¹ and (c) pyridinyl; and R^b is -H.

23. (original) The compound of claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:



	Y	R ¹
a)		
b)		
c)		
d)		

e)		
f)		
g)		
h)		
i)		
j)		
k)		
l)		
m)		
n)		
o)		
p)		

and the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates thereof.

24. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprised of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

25. (canceled)

26. (original) A method for treating a leukotriene-mediated medical condition comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 to a patient in need of such treatment.

27. (canceled)

28. (previously presented) The method of Claim 26 wherein said leukotriene-mediated medical condition is atherosclerosis.

29. (canceled)

30. (canceled)

31. (canceled)

32. (original) A method of preventing or reducing the risk for a leukotriene-mediated medical condition comprising administering a prophylactically effective amount of a compound of claim 1 to a patient in need of such treatment.

33. (canceled)

34. (previously presented) The method of Claim 32 wherein said leukotriene-mediated medical condition is an atherosclerotic disease event.

35. (original) The method of treating atherosclerosis of claim 28 further comprising administering to the patient a compound selected from the group consisting of an HMG-CoA reductase inhibitor, cholesterol absorption inhibitor, CETP inhibitor, PPAR γ agonist, PPAR α agonist, PPAR dual α/γ agonist, and combinations thereof.

36. (previously presented) The method of Claim 26 wherein said leukotriene-mediated medical condition is selected from asthma, allergies, allergic conditions and COPD.